L’s for Linda

Linda likes to do art projects. She also likes the letter L because it is the first letter of her name. Linda decided to decorate her bedroom with L’s made with colored plastic tiles.

The first L took 3 tiles to make:

The second L took 5 tiles to make:

The third L took 7 tiles to make:

Linda didn’t know how many L’s she would make, but she was sure she would make at least 10. She might even make 50!

If Linda continues to make L’s in the same pattern established above, how many tiles would Linda need to make the tenth L? How many tiles would she need to make the fifteenth L? Show your math thinking.

Linda went to the hobby store and discovered that a bag of 50 colored tiles cost $1.30 (that included tax). She also noticed that a bag of 65 colored tiles cost $1.50 (that also included tax). If Linda makes just the fifteenth L, what bags of tiles should she buy that will give her the best deal? Show your math thinking.